

**IDAPA 37  
TITLE 03  
CHAPTER 09**

**37.03.09 - WELL CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS RULES**

**000. LEGAL AUTHORITY (RULE 0).**

The Idaho Water Resource Board adopts these Well Construction Rules pursuant to the authority provided by Section 42-238, Idaho Code. ()

**001. TITLE AND SCOPE (RULE 1).**

**01. Title.** These rules shall be cited as IDAPA 37.03.09, "Well Construction Standards Rules." ()

**02. Scope.** The Idaho Department of Water Resources is responsible for the statewide administration of the rules governing Well Construction. The rules establish minimum standards for the construction of new wells, the construction of low-temperature geothermal resource wells, and the modification and abandonment of existing wells. The intent of the rules is to protect the ground water resources of the state against waste and contamination. The rules are applicable to all water wells, monitoring wells, low temperature geothermal wells, injection wells and other artificial openings, excavations, or improvements in the ground that are more than eighteen (18) feet in vertical depth below land surface. The intent of the rules shall be observed for any hole constructed, modified, or improved, regardless of depth that could promote waste and contamination of the ground water resources of the state. ()

**002. WRITTEN INTERPRETATION (RULE 2).**

In accordance with Section 67-5201(19)(b)(iv), Idaho Code, the Idaho Department of Water Resources does not have written statements that pertain to the interpretation of the rules of this chapter, or to the documentation of compliance with the rules of this chapter. ()

**003. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS (RULE 3).**

Persons may be entitled to appeal agency actions authorized under these rules pursuant to Section 42-1701A, Idaho Code, and IDAPA 37.01.01, "Rules of Procedure of the Idaho Department of Water Resources". ()

**004. INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE (RULE 4).** ()

**005. OFFICE HOURS -- MAILING ADDRESS AND STREET ADDRESS (RULE 5).**

**01. Office Hours.** Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. local time, Monday through Friday, except holidays designated by the State of Idaho. ()

**02. Mailing Address.** The mailing address for the state office is  
Idaho Department of Water Resources,  
P.O. Box 83720,  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0098 ()

**03. Street Address.** The street addresses for the state office of the Department of Water Resources, the regional offices in Idaho Falls, Coeur d'Alene, Twin Falls, and Boise, and the satellite offices in Salmon, and Soda Springs may be obtained by calling the state office at (208) 287-4800, or by visiting the Department's website at <http://www.idwr.idaho.gov>. ()

**006. PUBLIC RECORDS ACT COMPLIANCE (RULE 6).**

Records maintained by the Department of Water Resources are subject to the provisions of the Idaho Public Records Act, Title 9, Chapter 3, Sections 9-337 through 9-349, Idaho Code. ()

**007. OTHER AUTHORITIES REMAIN APPLICABLE (RULE 7).**

Nothing in these rules shall limit the Director's authority to take additional or alternative actions in order to ensure compliance consistent with the intent of these rules as provided by Idaho law. ()

**008. -- 009. (RESERVED).**

**010. DEFINITIONS (RULE 10).**

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions govern within these rules: ()

**01. Abandoned Well (also Decommissioned Well).** Any well which has been permanently removed from service and filled or plugged in accordance with these rules so that it is rendered unproductive, does not allow the transfer of fluids, and will not serve as a conduit for waste and contamination of the ground water resources. ()

**02. Abandonment (also Decommissioning).** The act of filling or plugging a well in accordance with these rules so that the well will not: a) produce or accept fluids, b) serve as a conduit for the movement of contaminants, and c) allow the movement of surface or ground water into unsaturated zones, into another aquifer, or between aquifers. ()

**03. Annular Seal (also Seal).** Approved seal material installed in a manner that completely fills the annular space between the borehole and permanent casing or between separate casing strings to act as a low-permeability barrier and prevent the horizontal and vertical movement of fluids. Annular seals create low-permeability barriers between the land surface and the subsurface, or between subsurface zones, and are critical to the prevention of waste and contamination of the ground water resources. In some cases, an annular seal may extend upward and become continuous with the surface seal. ()

**04. Annular Space.** The space between the borehole wall and the outside surface of the nearest casing, or between the outer and inner surfaces of two successive casing strings. The minimum annular space shall be measured as one-half (1/2) the difference in diameter between such surfaces. ()

**05. Aquifer.** Any subsurface geologic zone, or naturally hydraulically connected zones, capable of storing and transmitting water to a well in sufficient quantities to make the production of water from such zone(s) feasible for beneficial use. ()

**06. Area of Drilling Concern.** Any area so designated by the Director in accordance with Section 42-238, Idaho Code. ()

**07. Artesian Well.** Any well or borehole that encounters pressurized ground water or low temperature geothermal resource(s) under sufficient head to rise above the elevation at which it was first encountered whether or not the fluid flows at land surface. Artesian wells include flowing artesian wells – those wells in which the water rises to and flows naturally at the land surface. ()

**08. Artificial Filter Pack (also Filter Pack).** Clean, rounded, smooth, uniform, graded sand or gravel insert placed into the annular space between the borehole wall and perforated well casing or well screen. A filter pack is used to prevent the movement of sand and other sediment into the well, prevent caving of the borehole, and to enhance the ability of the well to yield water. ()

**09. Bentonite.** A commercially processed, low permeability, sodium montmorillonite clay certified by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) for use in well construction, sealing, plugging, and abandonment. All approved bentonite products shall have a permeability rating not greater than  $10^{-6}$  cm/sec. ()

a. **Chips.** Bentonite composed of pieces ranging in size from 1/4-inch to one (1) inch on their greatest dimension. ()

- b. **Granules (also Granular).** Bentonite composed of pieces ranging in size from 1/32-inch (#20 standard mesh) to 7/32-inch (#3 standard mesh) on their greatest dimension. ()
- c. **Grout.** A mixture of bentonite and potable water to produce a seal material with an active solids content not less than 25% by weight (25% solids content by weight = 50 pounds bentonite per 18 gallons of water). ()
- d. **Pellets.** Bentonite manufactured for a specific purpose and composed of uniform sized, 1/4-inch, 3/8-inch, or 1/2-inch pieces on their greatest dimension. ()
10. **Borehole (also Well Bore).** The subsurface hole created during the drilling process. ()
11. **Bottom Hole Temperature.** The temperature of the ground water encountered at the bottom of a well or borehole. ()
12. **Casing.** A conduit of pipe used to: a) provide physical stabilization to prevent caving and/or collapse of the borehole, b) serve as a solid inner barrier to allow for the installation of an annular seal, and c) serve in conjunction with annular seals as a means to prevent waste and contamination of the ground water resources. Casing does not include screens, perforated sections, or liners used in the construction of the well. ()
13. **Cathodic Protection Well.** Any artificial excavation in excess of eighteen (18) feet in vertical depth constructed for the purpose of protecting certain metallic equipment in contact with the ground. Commonly referred to as cathodic protection. (7-1-93)
14. **Closed Loop Heat Exchange Well.** A ground source thermal exchange well constructed for the purpose of installing any underground system through which fluids are circulated but remain isolated from direct contact with the subsurface. ()
15. **Conductor Pipe.** A permanent, relatively short string of large-diameter casing which is set to keep the top of the borehole open and provide a means of returning the drilling fluid from the well bore to the surface until the first casing string is set in the well. ()
16. **Confining Layer.** A subsurface zone of low-permeability earth material that naturally acts to restrict or retard the movement of water from one zone to another. The term does not include topsoil. ()
17. **Consolidated Formations.** Naturally occurring earth materials that have been lithified (turned to stone). The term is sometimes used interchangeably with the word "bedrock" and includes rocks such as basalt, granite, rhyolite, sandstone, limestone and shale. ()
18. **Contaminant.** Any chemical compound, biological or radiological agent, or physical property not occurring naturally in ground water or that occurs naturally at lower concentrations or to lesser degrees. Contaminant also includes thermal or aesthetic properties that result in ground water becoming less suitable for a beneficial use as determined by the Director. ()
19. **Contamination.** The direct or indirect introduction into ground water of any contaminant caused in whole or in part by human activities. The term includes the introduction of any contaminant from one geologic zone to another, and the introduction of any contaminant that may cause a violation of IDAPA 58.01.11, "Ground Water Quality Rule". ()
20. **Decommissioned Well.** An Abandoned Well. ()
21. **Department.** The Idaho Department of Water Resources. (7-1-93)
22. **Director.** The Director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources or his duly authorized representatives. (7-1-93)

164       **23.     Disinfection.** The introduction of chlorine or other agent or process approved by the Director in  
165 sufficient concentration and for the time required to inactivate or kill fecal and coliform bacteria, indicator  
166 organisms, and other potentially harmful pathogens. ( )  
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168       **24.     Decontamination.** The process of cleaning equipment intended for use in an existing well in order  
169 to prevent the introduction of contaminants. ( )  
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171       **25.     Drill Rig.** Any power driven percussion, rotary, boring, digging, jetting, or auguring machine  
172 used in the construction or modification of a well. ( )  
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174       **26.     Drive Point (also known as a Sand Point).** A hole through which ground water of any  
175 temperature is sought or encountered created by joining a “drive point” to a length of pipe and driving the assembly  
176 into the ground. Drive points are not allowed to exceed 18-feet in depth without meeting all requirements set forth  
177 in these rules. The depth is determined by measuring the maximum vertical distance between the natural land  
178 surface and the deepest portion of the hole. ( )  
179

180       **27.     Grout.** A mixture of cement and potable water (as in neat cement), neat cement grout, or  
181 bentonite and potable water of a consistency appropriate to be pumped through a pipe and emplaced as seal material. ( )  
182

183       **28.     Hydro-Fracturing.** A process whereby potable water or other Department-approved fluid is  
184 pumped under high pressure into a well to fracture the reservoir rock surrounding the well bore in order to increase  
185 flow into the well. ( )  
186

187       **29.     Injection Well.** Any excavation or artificial opening into the ground which meets the following  
188 three (3) criteria: (7-1-93)  
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190           **a.**       It is a bored, drilled or dug hole, or is a driven mine shaft or driven well point; and (7-1-93)  
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192           **b.**       It is deeper than its largest straight-line surface dimension; and (7-1-93)  
193

194           **c.**       It is used for or intended to be used for subsurface placement of fluids. (7-1-93)  
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196       **30.     Intermediate Casing.** The casing installed below the surface casing within any well to seal out  
197 specific subsurface zones. Such strings may be overlapped, or telescoped, and sealed into the surface casing, or  
198 extend continuously to land surface. ( )  
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200       **31.     Liner.** A conduit of pipe used to: a) serve as access and protective housing for pumping  
201 equipment, and b) provide a pathway for the upward flow of water within the well. Liner does not include casing  
202 required to: a) prevent caving and/or collapse of the borehole, or b) serve as a solid inner barrier to allow for the  
203 installation of an annular seal. ( )  
204

205       **32.     Mineralized Water.** Any ground water having a TDS (total dissolved solids) concentration  
206 greater than 5000 ppm. ( )  
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208       **33.     Modify (also Modification).** To deepen a well, increase or decrease the diameter of the casing or  
209 the well bore, install a liner, place a screen, perforate existing casing or liner, alter an annular seal, or any other  
210 alteration made to a well that could cause a violation of these rules. The proper installation of pitless adaptors, in  
211 compliance with Rule 85, is not considered modification. ( )  
212

213       **34.     Monitoring Well.** Any well more than eighteen (18) feet in vertical depth constructed to evaluate,  
214 observe or determine the quality, quantity, temperature, pressure or other characteristics of the ground water or  
215 aquifer. (7-1-93)  
216

217       **35.     Natural Filter Pack (also Filter Pack).** Graded sand and gravel between the borehole and the  
218 perforated casing or well screen produced from the native aquifer material during well development. A filter pack is

used to prevent the movement of sand and other sediment into the well, and to enhance the ability of the well to yield water. ()

**36. Neat Cement.** A mixture of ASTM Type I, II, or III (API Class A, B, or C) Portland cement with not more than six (6) gallons of potable water per 94 pound sack of cement ()

**37. Neat Cement Grout.** A mixture of neat cement and up to five (5) % by weight pre-hydrated bentonite. The total amount of water used, including that used to pre-hydrate bentonite, shall not exceed six and one-half (6.5) gallons per 94-pound sack of cement. ()

**38. Overpumping.** The condition where, during routine operation, water is withdrawn from a well at a rate exceeding the design capacity of the well, or at a rate greater than the aquifer is capable of producing on a sustained basis, causing excessive sand production, aquifer material compaction or excavation, borehole erosion, land subsidence near the well, and/or premature well failure. ()

**39. Pitless Adaptor (also Pitless Assembly).** An assembly of parts attached to a well casing to allow for subsurface pump discharge and access to the interior of the well casing for installation or removal of pump accessories while preventing contaminants from entering the well. ()

**40. Potable Water.** Water suitable for human consumption. ()

**41. Pressure Pumping.** The act or process of forcing, with mechanical pressure, an approved grout mixture through a pipeline (tremie pipe) or from within a borehole or casing into an annular space to create an annular seal at a desired location. ()

**42. Remediation Well.** A well used to inject or withdraw fluids, vapor, or other solutions approved by the Department for the purposes of remediating, or controlling potential or known contamination. Remediation wells include those used for air sparging, vapor extraction, or injection of chemicals for remediation or in-situ treatment of contaminated sites. ()

**43. Seal Material.** The low permeability material (bentonite, bentonite grout, neat cement, or neat cement grout) placed into an annular space or other location within a well required to prevent the waste and contamination of ground water. ()

**44. Solid, Non-Weathered Zone.** Any area within a consolidated formation that is structurally sound, has few or no interconnected fractures or voids, and lacks rubble or residual degraded material such that an annular seal placed into such a zone would prevent the vertical and horizontal migration of fluids through or around the borehole. ()

**45. Stable Unit.** Those portions of consolidated formations that are sufficiently hard and durable to sustain an open borehole without caving or producing obstructions without the aid of fluid hydraulics or other means of chemical or physical stabilization. ()

**46. Surface Casing.** The outermost, shallowest permanent casing string used to isolate surface zones, allow for the installation of a surface seal, to provide sufficient pressure control during drilling operations, and to support the wellhead. ()

**47. Surface Seal.** An annular seal installed between the borehole wall and the outside perimeter of the surface casing that prevents the horizontal and vertical movement of water. Surface seals create a low-permeability barrier between the land surface and subsurface zones. ()

**48. Temporary Casing.** Steel pipe used to retain the sides of the borehole within unstable units or unconsolidated formations and/or to prevent the entrance of water into the borehole during drilling and well construction. Temporary casing is removed following the installation of the permanent well casing and prior to well completion. ()

275           **49. Thermoplastic Pipe.** Plastic piping material meeting the requirements of ASTM F 480 and  
276 designed for use as well casing and/or liner. ()

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278           **50. Unconsolidated Formations.** Naturally occurring earth materials that have not been lithified (not  
279 turned to stone). The term includes materials such as alluvium, soil, sand, silt, gravel, clay, and overburden. ()

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281           **51. Unstable Unit.** All unconsolidated formations, and those portions of consolidated formations that  
282 are not sufficiently hard or durable to sustain an open borehole without caving or producing obstructions without the  
283 aid of fluid hydraulics or other means of chemical or physical stabilization. ()

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285           **52. Unused or Unusable Water Well.** A borehole or constructed well intended and permitted for  
286 ground water production that, for any reason, fails to yield water of adequate quantity or quality and is not, can not  
287 or will not be used for its intended and authorized purpose. ()

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289           **53. Waste.** The loss, transfer, or physical migration of a ground water resource, thermal characteristic,  
290 or natural artesian pressure from any aquifer caused by improper construction, misuse, or failure to maintain any  
291 well, including but not limited to: ()

292           **a.** The flow of water from an aquifer into an unsaturated subsurface zone; ()

293           **b.** The transfer and/or mixing of waters from one aquifer to another (aquifer commingling); and ()

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295           **c.** The release of ground water to the land surface whenever such release does not comply with an  
296 authorized beneficial use. ()

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298           **54. Well.** An artificial excavation or opening in the ground more than eighteen (18) feet in vertical  
299 depth below the natural land surface by which ground water of any temperature is sought or obtained. The depth of a  
300 well is determined by measuring the maximum vertical distance between the land surface and the deepest portion of  
301 the well. Well also means any waste disposal and injection well as defined by Section 42-3902, Idaho Code, any  
302 test well, monitoring well, cathodic protection well, observation well, recycling well, ground source heat exchange  
303 well, or any exploratory well more than eighteen (18) feet in vertical depth below the natural land surface that is  
304 constructed to evaluate the ground water resource or to evaluate contamination of the resource. Well does not mean  
305 a hole drilled for mineral exploration, oil and gas exploration (for which a permit has been issued pursuant to  
306 Section 47-320, Idaho Code), for mine shafts or adits, for temporary construction dewatering, for foundation  
307 geotechnical evaluations, or for elevator shaft installation. ()

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309           **55. Well Development.** The act of bailing, jetting, pumping, or surging water in a well to remove  
310 drilling fluids, fines, and suspended materials from within the borehole, screen, filter pack, and aquifer to establish  
311 the optimal hydraulic connection between the well and the aquifer. ()

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313           **56. Well Driller.** Any driller or operator authorized under Section 42-238, Idaho Code. ()

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315           **57. Well Drilling.** The act of constructing, modifying, or abandoning a well. ()

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317           **58. Well Owner.** The owner of the land on which the well is located unless a deed, covenant,  
318 contract, easement, or other documentation acceptable to the Director demonstrates that the well is the responsibility  
319 of another party. ()

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321 **011. -- 024. (RESERVED).**

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324 **025. GENERAL STANDARDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF COLD WATER WELLS (RULE 25).**

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326           **01. Standards for Every Well.** The Well Driller shall construct each well: ()

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328           **a.** In accordance with these rules and with the conditions of approval of any drilling permit issued  
329 pursuant Section 42-235, Idaho Code, and in a manner that will guard against waste and contamination of the  
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ground water resources. The adopted rules are minimum standards that must be adhered to in the construction of all wells, and in the modification or abandonment of existing wells. If the well driller determines, during construction, modification, or abandonment of any well, that the minimum standards are not sufficient to protect the ground water resources, the well driller shall take measures over and above these minimum standards as necessary to achieve this goal. The well driller and well owner are charged with the responsibility of taking appropriate steps to guard against waste and contamination of the ground water resources; ()

**b.** Based on the geologic and ground water conditions known to exist or anticipated at the well site; ()

**c.** Such that it is capable of producing, where obtainable, the quantity of water to support the approved beneficial uses of the well owner, subject to law; ()

**d.** Such that it is designed and constructed to sustain the production of the quantity of water to support the approved beneficial uses without overpumping; ()

**e.** Such that, at the time of well completion, it complies with these standards and the following siting and distance separation requirements:

Separation of Well from:	Minimum Separation Distance (feet)
Existing Public Water Supply well	50
Other existing well, separate ownership	25
Septic drain field	100
Septic tank	50
Drainfield of system with more than 2,500 GPD of sewage inflow	300
Sewer line - main line or sub-main, pressurized, from multiple sources	100
Sewer line - main line or sub-main, gravity, from multiple sources	50
Sewer line - secondary, pressure tested, from a single residence or building	25
Property line	5
Permanent buildings, other than those to house the well and/or plumbing apparatus	10
Concentrated livestock holding boundary, more than 10 head and less than or equal to 50 head for 30 or more consecutive days per year	100
Concentrated livestock holding boundary, more than 50 head for 30 or more consecutive days per year	300
Above ground chemical storage tanks	50
Streams, canals, irrigation ditches or laterals, and other permanent, temporary or intermittent (greater than 45 consecutive days per year) bodies of water	50

Compliance with the above siting and separation distances does not exempt the driller from complying with other requirements established by other authorized bodies (e.g. District Health Departments, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, etc.); ()

**f.** Such that, if used for injection, it complies with these standards and IDAPA 37.03.03, "Rules for the Construction and Use of Injection Wells"; and ()

**g.** Such that, if used for a Public Water Supply, it complies with these standards and with IDAPA 58.01.08, "Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems." ()

**h.** The Director may require measures beyond the minimum standards when determined necessary to protect ground water resources. Areas of Drilling Concern pursuant to 42-238, Idaho Code identified by the Department shall require more stringent well construction practices. The Well Driller shall observe and comply with all specific additional requirements within such identified areas. ()

i. Areas of special geologic conditions identified by the Department may allow for less stringent or require more stringent construction practices. The Well Driller shall observe and comply with more stringent requirements within such identified areas. ()

**02. Waivers.** The Well Driller may submit a detailed plan and written request to the Director for a waiver of any of these minimum standards. Prior to submittal, the Well Driller shall provide the plan and written request to the well owner for signature and acknowledgement of concurrence with the waiver request. The waiver may be granted if the Director determines that the ground water resources and public health will be protected according to the plan, and the waiver will not conflict with other requirements established by authorized bodies (e.g. District Health Departments, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, etc.). Well construction, modification, or abandonment shall not commence until the Director has approved the plan and granted the waiver in writing. If a waiver is granted, all well drilling activities shall adhere to the plan as approved. ()

**03. Requirements for Licensure.** No person except those licensed as Well Drillers under the authority of Section 42-238, Idaho Code, and IDAPA 37.03.10, "Well Driller Licensing Rules" shall construct, modify or abandon a well. ()

**04. Documents to be Maintained by the Well Driller.** Every Well Driller is required to keep available for inspection at the well site a daily well log and pertinent data concerning the construction, modification or abandonment of the well. ()

**05. Documents to be Submitted to the Department.** The Well Driller shall submit a properly prepared and signed well driller's report to the Department within thirty (30) days of completion of the well. When the Well Driller signs the report, the Well Driller attests that all information on the report is accurate to the best of his/her knowledge and that all provisions of the minimum well construction standards herein have been met. ()

**06. Documents to be Provided to Well Owner.** The Well Driller shall provide the well owner with a copy of the approved well drilling permit, and a copy of the well driller's report upon completion of the well. ()

**026. -- 029. (RESERVED).**

**030. STANDARDS FOR ALL CASING AND LINER (RULE 30).**

**01. Requirements for Casing.** The Well Driller shall install steel, or steel and thermoplastic casing in every well. All casing and liner to be installed must be in like-new condition, free of all defects, and clearly marked by the manufacturer with all specifications required by these rules. ()

**02. Requirements for Casing and Liner Installation.** The Well Driller shall:

a. Install a minimum of 20 feet of steel surface casing that meets or exceeds specifications of Rule 31.01; ()

b. Ensure that the steel surface casing extends not less than twelve (12) inches above the land surface and finished grade, and not less than eighteen (18) feet below land surface; ()

c. Ensure that all casing extends and is properly sealed to the depth required by these Rules; ()

d. Prior to the completion of a well, install onto the steel surface casing: a) a one-fourth inch (1/4") thick, solid, new or like-new steel plate welded to and completely covering the casing, or b) a commercially manufactured sanitary well cap, or c) a commercially manufactured, water-tight, snorkel-vented or non-vented well cap on any well susceptible to submergence, and d) a Department approved control device per Rule 74 on any well that flows at land surface. Cast aluminum well caps are prohibited; ()

e. Join all casing and liner lengths in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and recommendations; ()



- f. Ensure all joints are straight and watertight; ( )
- g. Not allow perforated casing to extend through a confining layer that separates aquifers or zones of differing artesian pressure; and ( )
- h. Not allow perforated casing to extend through a confining layer that would otherwise prevent the migration of water from one zone to another. ( )

**03. Requirement for Integrity of Casing and Liners.** The Well Driller shall install casing and liners of sufficient strength to withstand normal subsurface forces and corrosive effects. ( )

**031. STANDARDS FOR STEEL CASING AND LINER (RULE 31).**

**01. Minimum Steel Casing Specifications.** The Well Driller shall install steel casing that meets or exceeds the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) standard A53, Grade B or American Petroleum Institute (API) 5L Grade B, and that meets the following specifications: ( )

**Minimum Single-Wall Steel Well Casing Thickness<sup>1</sup> for Selected Diameters (in.)**

Nominal Diameter (in.) <sup>3</sup>	6 <sup>2</sup>	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26	28	30
Depth (ft.)	Nominal Wall Thickness (in.) <sup>1</sup>												
<100	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250
100-200	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250
200-300	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250
300-400	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375
400-600	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375
600-800	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375
800-1000	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375
1000-1500	0.280	0.322	0.365	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375
1500-2000	0.280	0.322	0.365	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375

<sup>1</sup>Compliance with the minimum nominal wall thicknesses listed is required for any depth or location where casing is used to prevent caving and/or collapse of the borehole or serves as a solid inner barrier to allow for the installation of an annular seal. <sup>2</sup>For nominal casing diameters less than 6 inches, the minimum nominal wall thickness shall be equivalent to ASTM Schedule 40. <sup>3</sup>For any other casing diameter not addressed herein, prior Department approval is required. ( )

**02. Additional Requirements for Steel Casing and Liner.** The Well Driller shall: ( )

a. Join casing and liner lengths by welded or threaded joints; and ( )

b. Ensure that welded joints are made using welding rods of at least equal quality to the casing metal, are at least as thick as the wall thickness of the well casing, and are fully penetrating. Casing ends to be joined by welding shall be properly prepared, beveled and gapped to allow full penetration of the weld. Welded joints shall have a minimum of two (2) passes including a "root" pass and have minimal undercut when complete. ( )

**032. -- 039. (RESERVED).**

**040. STANDARDS FOR THERMOPLASTIC PIPE CASING AND LINER (Rule 40).** Thermoplastic pipe used as casing or liner shall conform to ASTM F 480 and NSF-WC. ( )

**01. Conditions for the Use of Thermoplastic Pipe Casing and Liner.** ( )

a. Thermoplastic pipe may be used as casing in all monitoring wells. Thermoplastic pipe used as

casing in monitoring wells shall have a minimum rating of schedule 40. If used as casing within unstable units, thermoplastic pipe shall be centralized and supported as described in Rule 040.b.iii below. ( )

**b.** Thermoplastic pipe may be used as casing or liner in other wells only when drilling of the borehole confirms its suitability for use. The conditions for use of thermoplastic pipe in other wells shall conform to the following: ( )

**i.** Stable Units: Thermoplastic pipe having a minimum rating of SDR 21, or a minimum rating of schedule 40 for nominal diameters of four (4) inches or less, may be used as liner only within uninterrupted stable units. ( )

**ii.** Stable Units: Thermoplastic pipe having a minimum rating of SDR 17, or a minimum rating of schedule 40 for nominal diameters of four (4) inches or less, may be used as casing within uninterrupted stable units. ( )

**iii.** Unstable Units, or for all other conditions: Thermoplastic pipe used as casing shall have a minimum rating of SDR 17, or a minimum rating of schedule 40 for nominal diameters of four (4) inches or less. If the annular space at any point is greater than one (1) inch, thermoplastic pipe used as casing shall be centralized a minimum of every forty (40) feet, and fully supported throughout the unstable zone(s) by filter pack and/or seal material as required by these rules. ( )

**c.** In addition to the above and for each casing or liner application, the Well Driller shall ensure the selection and use of the appropriate, minimum-rated thermoplastic pipe with respect to differential hydraulic pressures in accordance with the manufacturer's Resistance to Hydraulic Collapse Pressure (RHCP) specifications. In no instance shall the Well Driller use thermoplastic pipe for any application that would exceed the manufacturer's RHCP specifications or total depth recommendations. ( )

**02. Additional Requirements for Thermoplastic Pipe Casing and Liner.** All thermoplastic pipe casing and liner shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and specifications, and as required by these rules. The Well Driller shall: ( )

**a.** Not use thermoplastic pipe as casing or liner in any Low Temperature Geothermal Resource well or Geothermal Resource well; ( )

**b.** Not use thermoplastic pipe intended for permanent installation in any manner that would adversely affect its structural integrity; ( )

**c.** Not drive, drop, force, or jack thermoplastic pipe into place. Thermoplastic pipe shall be lowered or floated into an oversized, obstruction-free borehole; ( )

**d.** Not use Type III (high-early strength) Portland cement-based seal materials in direct contact with thermoplastic pipe unless approved by the Director; ( )

**e.** Ensure that thermoplastic pipe extending above-ground is protected from physical and ultraviolet light damage by enclosing it within steel surface casing according to Rule 030.02.b; and ( )

**f.** Ensure that the weight of the pump assembly, if secured to the thermoplastic pipe, does not exceed the weight limitations per manufacturer's recommendations. ( )

**041. STANDARDS FOR PLUMBNESS AND ALIGNMENT OF CASING AND LINER (RULE 42).**

The Well Driller shall install casings and liners sufficiently plumb and straight to allow the installation or removal of screens, liners, pumps and pump columns without binding or having adverse effects on the operation of the installed pumping equipment. If it is determined that the borehole, casings, and/or liners are not sufficiently plumb and straight to allow the above tasks as described, the well driller shall repair or abandon the well in accordance with these rules. ( )

042. -- 048. (RESERVED).

**049. STANDARDS FOR ARTIFICIAL, NATURAL, AND RESERVE FILTER PACK (RULE 49).**

**01.** The Well Driller shall ensure that artificial, natural, and reserve filter pack (the additional amount of filter pack material emplaced above a well screen to allow for settling) shall not extend through a confining layer that separates aquifers or zones of differing artesian pressure. ( )

**02.** The Well Driller shall not install or develop a filter pack interval that extends through a confining layer that would otherwise prevent the migration of water from one zone to another. ( )

**050. REQUIRED SEALS: STANDARDS FOR ANNULAR SEALING (RULE 50).** See Appendix 1 for general well sealing diagrams.

**01. Requirements for Every Well.** The Well Driller shall: ( )

**a.** Install annular seals in every well to prevent: ( )

i. The downward movement of surface fluids; ( )

ii. The vertical movement of artesian waters; ( )

iii. The waste of ground water, or the exchange of ground water between aquifers; and ( )

iv. The downward migration of ground water or other fluids from any zone not protected by an overlying confining layer; ( )

**b.** Ensure that all required seals are of sufficient length and thickness to withstand the maximum natural vertical and horizontal hydraulic pressure differential encountered, and are of sufficient integrity to produce a positive seal at the required location(s); ( )

**c.** Ensure that all water bearing zones known to contain contaminants are isolated by a continuous seal extending a minimum of ten (10) feet above to a minimum of ten (10) feet below the contaminated zone(s); and ( )

**d.** Ensure all required seals are placed into an annular space not less than that required by Rule 53, and completely fill the annular space and any voids created during the drilling process as required by these rules. ( )

**02. Additional Requirements For Sealing Artesian Wells.** If the Well Driller constructs a well that encounters or produces from artesian ground water, the Well Driller shall: ( )

**a.** Install unperforated well casing from the land surface into the confining layer immediately overlying the production zone(s); ( )

**b.** Install an annular seal(s) into all confining layers below and adjacent to the highest artesian head encountered; ( )

**c.** Install a surface seal to a minimum depth of eighteen (18) feet below land surface; ( )

**d.** Ensure that no leaks exist around or through the well casing prior to removing the drilling rig from the site; ( )

**e.** Comply with additional requirements of the following subsections as applicable. ( )

**03. Additional Requirements for Sealing Wells in Unconsolidated Formations Without Confining Layers.** If the Well Driller constructs a well that encounters or produces water from unconsolidated formations without penetrating a confining layer, the Well Driller shall: ( )

a. Install unperforated well casing from the land surface to a depth of not less than five (5) feet below the static ground water level, and to a minimum depth of eighteen (18) feet below land surface; and ()

b. Install a surface seal to a minimum depth of eighteen (18) feet below land surface. ()

**04. Additional Requirements for Sealing Wells in Unconsolidated Formations With Confining Layers.** If the Well Driller constructs a well that encounters or produces water from unconsolidated formations and penetrates one or more confining layer(s), the Well Driller shall: ()

a. Install unperforated well casing from the land surface into the confining layer immediately overlying the production zone(s); ()

b. Install an annular seal(s) through the uppermost confining layer; and ()

c. Install a surface seal to a minimum depth of eighteen (18) feet below land surface. ()

**05. Additional Requirements for Sealing Wells in Consolidated Formations.** If the Well Driller constructs a well that encounters or produces water from consolidated formations, the Well Driller shall adhere to one (1) of the following methods: ()

**Method 1.**

a. Install unperforated well casing from the land surface to a solid, non-weathered zone of the consolidated formation overlying the uppermost, targeted water-bearing zone; ()

b. Install a continuous annular seal from the solid, non-weathered zone of the consolidated formation (as described in method 1a. above) to the land surface. ()

c. Install a surface seal to a minimum depth of eighteen (18) feet below land surface. ()

**Method 2.**

a. Install unperforated well casing from the land surface to a minimum of five (5) feet into a solid, non-weathered, non-fractured zone of the consolidated formation overlying the uppermost, targeted water-bearing zone(s); ()

b. Install an annular seal a minimum of five (5) feet into the solid, non-weathered zone of the consolidated formation (as described in method 2a. above); and ()

c. Install a surface seal to a minimum depth of eighteen (18) feet below land surface. ()

**06. Additional Requirements for Sealing Wells in Unconsolidated Formations Overlain by Consolidated Formations.** If the Well Driller constructs a well that encounters or produces water from unconsolidated formations with overlying consolidated formations, the Well Driller shall adhere to one of the methods described in subsection 04 or 05, as appropriate. ()

**051. STANDARDS FOR APPROVED SEAL MATERIAL (RULE 51).** The Well Driller shall use only approved seal material, as herein described, when placing or installing a required seal. ()

**01. Standards for Bentonite Seal Materials.**

a. The Well Driller may use chips, granules, pellets, or grout in the installation of seals or in the abandonment of wells. ()

b. The Well Driller shall mix and install bentonite in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications, and as required by these rules. ()

c. The Well Driller may use only NSF-certified polymer additives that are designed and manufactured to meet industry standards to be non-degrading and not promote growth of microorganisms. ()

d. The Well Driller may add rounded silica sand, of any gradation between U.S. standard sieve sizes #50 and #10, to bentonite grouts not to exceed a by-weight ratio of five (5) parts sand to one (1) part bentonite (250 lbs sand to 50 lbs. bentonite). If sand is added to bentonite grout, it shall be added and/or mixed in a manner to prevent layering and segregation. ()

e. Non NSF-certified bentonite products may only be used with prior approval from the Director. ()

## **02. Standards for Cement Seal Materials.**

a. All grouts shall be mixed and installed in accordance with the American Petroleum Institute Standards - API Class A through H, as found in API RP10B-2 "Recommended Practice for Testing Oil Well Cements and Cement Additives," or other Department approved standard. ()

b. Type III (high-early strength) Portland cement-based seal materials shall not be placed in direct contact with thermoplastic pipe used as casing or liner unless approved by the Director. ()

c. Aggregate, sand, reacting or non-reacting filler materials, expanding agents, or accelerating agents shall not be added without prior Department approval. ()

**03. Standards for Packers and Shale Traps Used when Installing Required Seals.** Manufactured packers and shale traps may be used as devices to retain approved seal material when installing a required annular seal. Whenever these devices are used to retain seal material, the Well Driller shall comply with the manufacturer's recommendations for installation. ()

**04. Standards for the Use of Drive Shoes and Packers to Create Required Seals.** The use of drive shoes and/or packer(s) to solely serve as a required seal at any location is not allowed. ()

**05. Prohibited Seal Materials.** The Well Driller shall not use drill cuttings, dirt, soil, sand, gravel, or other material not herein approved to create any required seal. ()

## **052. STANDARDS FOR SEAL MATERIAL INSTALLATION (RULE 52).**

The Well Driller shall be responsible for ensuring that each well is constructed to provide sufficient annular space for the effective and successful placement of seal material to produce a positive seal between the permanent casing and formation, or between successive casing strings, at all required intervals according to Rule 50, subsections 01 through 06. The Well Driller shall adhere to the minimum required annular spaces specified in the table of Rule 53 to install any seal required by Rule 50, subsections 01 through 06. ()

**01. Dry Seal Materials.** The Well Driller shall adhere to the following as applicable: ()

a. Bentonite chips and pellets may be installed below the ground water level or into a fluid-filled or wet annular space. If installing into a fluid-filled annular space, the fluid must be of an appropriate viscosity to allow proper placement to the required location. Bentonite chips and pellets to be installed below the ground water level or into a fluid-filled borehole shall be screened to remove fines and hydrated clumps prior to installation; ()

b. Bentonite chips, granules, and pellets may be installed above the ground water level or into a dry annular space. When installing bentonite chips above the ground water level, a minimum one (1) foot layer of bentonite granules shall be installed before installing the chips. The chips shall be hydrated with a minimum of five (5) gallons of potable water per 50-pound sack of bentonite; ()

c. Bentonite granules shall not be installed below the ground water level or into any annular space with enough moisture to hinder placement at any required location; ()

d. All dry bentonite products shall be poured at a controlled rate according to the manufacturer's recommendations and tagged at intervals not greater than ten (10) feet; and ()

e. For all annular seals in excess of sixty (60) feet in length, casing shall be centralized with tension during the placement of the seal material. ()

**02. Grout Seal Materials.** The Well Driller shall adhere to the following as applicable: ()

a. All grout material used to create any seal below the ground water level shall be emplaced from the bottom upward in a continuous operation by pressure pumping in a manner that ensures positive displacement and achieves a permanent seal at the required interval(s); ()

b. All grout material used to create any seal below the ground water level shall be emplaced by methods that prevent segregation or dilution of the material; ()

c. Bentonite grout shall not be used to create any required seal above the ground water level unless the mixture contains a minimum by-weight ratio of four (4) parts sand to one (1) part bentonite; ()

d. If cement grouts are pressure pumped to create any seal above the ground water level, care shall be taken to minimize the occurrence of flash setting; ()

e. If a tremie or other pipe is used to emplace grout material, the discharge point shall remain submerged into the grout to ensure creation of a continuous seal within the required interval; ()

f. For any method, care shall be taken to prevent displacement of emplaced grout by vacuum or other mechanism; and ()

g. For all annular seals in excess of one hundred (100) feet in length, centralizers shall be used at intervals not greater than 100 feet for steel, or not greater than forty (40) feet for thermoplastic pipe, throughout the interval to be sealed. ()

**053. MINIMUM ANNULAR SPACE AND MAXIMUM DEPTH REQUIREMENTS BY SEAL MATERIAL TYPE AND PLACEMENT METHOD (RULE 53).** The Well Driller shall adhere to the following table to determine the minimum required annular space for the installation of required seals in the construction of all wells. ()

**Reference Table for Seal Material Placement**

Seal Material Type	Placement Method	Minimum Required Annular Space (in.)	Placed into or through fluid	Placed into a dry annular space	Maximum Depth of Placement (ft.)	Foot-notes
Bentonite Chips or Pellets	Dry Pour from Surface	1.5	Allowed	Allowed	100	1, 3, 6
Bentonite Chips or Pellets	Dry Pour from Surface	2.0	Allowed	Allowed	300	1, 3, 6
Bentonite Chips or Pellets	Dry Pour from Surface	2.5	Allowed	Allowed	500	1, 3, 6
Bentonite Chips or Pellets	Dry Pour from Surface	4.0	Allowed	Allowed	1000	1, 3, 6
Bentonite Granules	Dry Pour from Surface	1.5	Not Allowed	Allowed	100	2, 3
Bentonite	Dry Pour from	2.0	Not	Allowed	300	2, 3

Granules	Surface		Allowed			
Bentonite Granules	Dry Pour from Surface	2.5	Not Allowed	Allowed	500	2, 3
Bentonite Grout	Pressure Pumping Method A, B, C, D, E	1.5	Allowed	Not Allowed	Any	5
Neat Cement or Neat Cement Grout	Pressure Pumping Method A, B, D, E	1.0	Allowed	Allowed	Any	4, 7
Neat Cement or Neat Cement Grout	Pressure Pumping Method A, B, C, D, E	2.0	Allowed	Allowed	Any	4

## Footnotes:

1. Shall be poured at a controlled rate, tagged at intervals not greater than ten (10) feet, and hydrated with a minimum of five (5) gallons potable water per fifty (50) pound sack bentonite.
2. Shall be poured at a controlled rate, and shall be tagged at intervals not greater than ten (10) feet.
3. If bridging occurs, the seal shall be completed by inserting a tremie pipe below the lowest bridge point and pumping grout upward in a continuous operation.
4. If grout does not return to the surface, the seal shall be completed by a dry pour method in accordance with these rules.
5. Shall not be used to create any annular seal above the ground water level unless the grout mixture contains a minimum by-weight ratio of four (4) parts sand to one (1) part bentonite.
6. If using bentonite chips or pellets greater than 3/4-inch on their greatest dimension, the minimum required annular space shall be increased by one (1) inch for each respective maximum depth of placement according to the table above. For example, one (1) inch chips to be poured to a maximum depth of three hundred (300) feet shall require a minimum annular space of three (3) inches.
7. When using an under reamer, ring bit, or similar method to create an annular space for a required seal per Rule 50.05 Method 2, or throughout any stable and continuously solid, non-weathered zone of a consolidated formation, the minimum annular space may be reduced to not less than five-eighths (5/8) of an inch provided that the length of the seal installed is increased to ten (10) feet, and the required length of the seal is not greater than fifty (50) feet. ( )

Pressure Pumping Methods: (see Appendix 2 for general pressure pumping method diagrams).

Method A: The borehole shall be terminated, or blocked with a drillable borehole plug, at the lowest point to be sealed. The well casing equipped with a float shoe shall be placed into the borehole and suspended above the drillable plug. A grout pipe shall be inserted inside the casing and attached to the float shoe check valve. Water or drilling fluid shall be pumped into the annular space to ensure circulation prior to grout placement. Grout shall then be pumped to completely fill the interval to be sealed.

Method B: The borehole shall be terminated, or blocked with a drillable borehole plug, at the lowest point to be sealed. Grout shall be pumped through a grout pipe inserted inside the casing to a point five (5) feet above the bottom of the casing. The grout pipe shall attach through an airtight well cap or flange on the top of the casing. The cap or flange shall be equipped with a relief valve. The system shall also be equipped with another valve between the pump and the cap or flange to enable the grout to be shut-in following placement. The casing shall be suspended above the bottom of the borehole to allow grout passage around the bottom of the casing. Water shall be pumped through the grout pipe until it returns through the relief valve and/or the annular space. The relief valve shall then be closed, and pumping of grout shall commence, without significant delay, until clean grout completely fills the interval to be sealed.

Method C: The borehole shall be terminated, or blocked with a drillable borehole plug, at the lowest point to be sealed. A tremie or grout pipe shall be inserted into the annular space to be sealed. Water or drilling fluid shall be pumped into the annular space to ensure circulation prior to grout placement. Grout shall then be pumped to completely fill the interval to be sealed. The lower end of the tremie or grout pipe shall remain submerged in the grout throughout placement.

Method D: The borehole shall be terminated, or blocked with a drillable borehole plug, at the lowest point to be sealed. Following casing installation, a drillable casing plug, having a length greater than the diameter of the casing, shall be tightly fitted within the casing. The casing plug shall be positioned low enough to accommodate a calculated volume of grout required to completely fill the annular space of the interval to be sealed. The casing shall

then be filled with the calculated volume of grout, and another drillable casing plug, having a length greater than the diameter of the casing, shall be tightly fitted within the casing above the grout column. An airtight well cap or flange shall be installed on the top of the casing. The system shall also be equipped with another valve between the pump and the cap or flange to enable the grout to be shut-in following placement. The casing shall then be elevated above the bottom of the borehole (or above the borehole plug) a sufficient distance to allow clearance of the lower casing plug. Water or drilling fluid shall then be pumped into the casing forcing grout and casing plugs downward. A calculated volume water or drilling fluid shall be pumped in order to allow the upper casing plug to remain just inside of the casing.

Method E: This method is similar to Method D, except that mechanical pressure (ie the drill string) is used to force the grout and casing plugs downward. ()

**054. RESUMPTION OF CONSTRUCTION FOLLOWING PLACEMENT OF SEAL MATERIAL (RULE 54).** The Well Driller shall adhere to the following as applicable: ()

**01.** If cement-based grout (neat cement, neat cement grout) is used to create any seal, casing may only be repositioned or further driven immediately following the grout placement. A permanent casing string with which a seal has been made shall not be moved or driven following the initial set of any cement-based grout, and construction shall not resume for a minimum of twenty four (24) hours following placement; ()

**02.** If bentonite grout is used to create any seal, casing may only be repositioned or further driven immediately following the grout placement. A permanent casing string with which a seal has been made shall not be moved or driven following the initial set of any bentonite grout, and construction shall not resume until initial set is achieved. After emplacement and resumption of construction, no bentonite seal shall be exposed any degree of mechanical air or fluid pressure that may cause the seal to be compromised; ()

**03.** Once construction resumes, care shall be taken to prevent the contamination or damage of all emplaced seals; and ()

**04.** If any seal is compromised following placement, it shall be repaired or replaced to meet all requirements of these rules. ()

**055. STANDARDS FOR TEMPORARY CASING USED TO INSTALL SEALS (RULE 55).**

The Well Driller may install temporary steel casing during well construction to maintain an open or dry borehole. As the temporary casing is removed, the Well Driller shall simultaneously fill the annular space(s) with approved seal material in accordance with the intents, procedures and requirements of Rules 50 through 54 as applicable. ()

**056. REQUIREMENT TO REPAIR OR REPLACE SURFACE SEALS (RULE 57).**

Whenever a Well Driller moves the permanent surface casing or damages the existing surface seal, or whenever a Well Driller discovers that a surface seal was not installed or has been damaged, the Well Driller shall repair, replace, or install a minimum of eighteen feet of surface seal around the permanent casing. ()

**057. -- 060. (RESERVED).**

**061. REQUIREMENTS FOR SEALING OF ARTIFICIAL FILTER PACK WELLS (RULE 61).**

The Well Driller shall seal every artificial filter pack well in accordance with the intents, procedures and requirements of Rules 50 through 55 as applicable, and adhere to the following: ()

**01. Sealing of Filter Pack With Access Pipes.** If the Well Driller injects filter material through permanent access pipes or tubes, the Well Driller shall: ()

**a.** Ensure that the access pipe(s) or tube(s) are properly sealed as required by these rules; and ()

**b.** Install a watertight cap or plug on the access pipe or pipes. ()

**062. REQUIREMENTS FOR DRIVE POINTS (RULE 62).**



No person shall install any drive point that exceeds 18 feet in depth without complying with all requirements set forth in these rules and the requirements for licensure according to IDAPA 37.03.10, "Well Driller Licensing Rules", and Section 42-238, Idaho Code. ( )

**063. -- 069. (RESERVED).**

**070. INJECTION WELLS (RULE 70).**

The construction and/or modification of all injection wells shall comply with IDAPA 37.03.03, Rules for the Construction and Use of Injection Wells. Additionally, the construction, modification, and/or abandonment of all injection wells greater than 18-feet in depth shall comply with these rules. The well driller shall obtain a copy of the injection permit issued by the Department in addition to the required drilling permit prior to commencement of construction and/or modification of any injection well greater than 18-feet in depth. ( )

**071. CATHODIC PROTECTION WELLS (RULE 71).**

Only a Well Driller shall construct, or abandon a cathodic protection well. Cathodic protection wells shall be constructed in compliance with these rules. A detailed construction plan shall be included with the drilling permit application. ( )

**072. MONITORING AND/OR REMEDIATION WELLS (RULE 72).** ( )

**01. Site Specific Monitoring and/or Remediation Program Plans.** The application for permit for all monitoring and/or remediation wells shall include a design proposal prepared by a licensed engineer or licensed geologist pursuant to Section 42-235, Idaho Code. Blanket permits for well networks may be approved for site-specific monitoring and/or remediation programs. ( )

**02. Plans and Specifications for Monitoring and/or Remediation Wells and Well Networks.** The designs and specification shall demonstrate that: ( )

**a.** The ground water resources are protected against waste and contamination; ( )

**b.** The remediation wells will inject or withdraw only fluids, gasses or solutions approved by the Department; ( )

**c.** The remediation and monitoring wells will be constructed so as to prevent aquifer commingling; and ( )

**d.** The remediation and monitoring wells will be properly abandoned upon project completion and in accordance with these rules. ( )

**03. Use of Monitoring and/or Remediation Wells.** No person may divert ground water from a remediation or monitoring well for any purpose not authorized by the Director. ( )

**073. ACCESS PORT (RULE 73).**

All wells shall be equipped with an access port that will allow measurement of ground water level and well depth. Wells equipped with a commercially manufactured well cover cap as per Rule 30 do not require installation of an additional access port. ( )

**074. FLOWING ARTESIAN WELLS. (RULE 74).**

All wells that flow at land surface shall be equipped with a control device as required by Section 42-1603, Idaho Code. All control devices shall: ( )

**a.** Completely control artesian flow from the well; and ( )

**b.** Allow for the installation and removal of a gauge to measure shut-in pressure. ( )

**074. -- 079. (RESERVED).**

**080. CONDITIONS REQUIRING THE ABANDONMENT (DECOMMISSIONING) OF A WELL (RULE 80).** The well owner shall maintain every well in a manner that will prevent waste and contamination of the ground water resources. ( )

- 01.** The Director may require abandonment in accordance with these rules if the well: ( )
  - a.** Does not meet or cannot be repaired to meet these standards; ( )
  - b.** Meets the definition of Unused or Unusable Water Well; ( )
  - c.** Produces sand in excess of the limits specified in Rule 95; ( )
  - d.** Poses a threat to human health and safety, or could bring about a violation of IDAPA 58.01.11, "Ground Water Quality Rule"; and/or ( )
  - e.** The Well Owner does not have a valid water right or other specific authorization for the use of the well. ( )
- 02.** All monitoring and remediation wells, and piezometers must be abandoned in accordance with these rules upon project completion. ( )

**081. PERSONS AUTHORIZED TO ABANDON (DECOMMISSION) WELLS AND BOREHOLES (RULE 81).**

No person shall abandon a well in Idaho without first obtaining a driller's license or receiving a waiver of the license requirement from the Director of the Department of Water Resources. Authorization is required from the Director prior to any well abandonment. Upon completion of abandonment, the person who conducted the abandonment shall submit to the Department a report describing the procedures of abandonment. ( )

**082. PROCEDURES TO ABANDON (DECOMMISSION) WELLS AND BOREHOLES (RULE 82).**

The Director will require well abandonment in accordance with the following: ( )

**01. Cased Wells and Boreholes Without a Continuous Seal From Top of Intakes or Screen to the Surface.** The Well Driller shall use one (1) of the following methods as applicable: ( )

**a.** The well casing shall be perforated every five (5) feet from the bottom of the casing to within five (5) feet of the surface. Perforations made shall be adequate to allow the free flow of seal material into any voids outside the well casing. There shall be at least four equally spaced perforations per section circumference. Approved grout shall be pressure pumped to fill any voids outside of the casing. A sufficient volume shall be used to completely fill the well and annular space; or ( )

**b.** Fill the borehole with approved seal material as the casing is being removed. ( )

**02. Cased Wells and Boreholes with Full-Depth Seals.** If the well is cased and sealed from the top of the screen or production zone to the land surface, the well shall be completely filled with approved seal material. ( )

**03. Uncased Wells and Boreholes.** Uncased wells shall be completely filled with approved seal material. ( )

**04. Placement of Seal Material.** Approved seal material shall be placed in accordance with requirements of Rules 51 through 53. ( )

**083. COMPLETION OF A WELL (RULE 83).**

Every well shall be considered complete upon removal of the drill rig from the well. The drill rig shall not be removed from a well until it is complete and meets all requirements of these rules, unless the well driller has

provided written notice to the Director that the well will be properly completed or abandoned within a specified period of time. ()

**084. ATTACHMENT OF A WELL TAG (RULE 84).**

Upon the completion of every well, the Well Driller shall permanently affix the stainless steel well tag to the steel surface casing in a manner and location that maintains tag legibility. The Well Driller shall secure each tag by a full-length weld across the top and down each side of the tag, or by using one (1) stainless steel, closed-end domed rivet near each of the four (4) corners of the tag. Prior to welding or riveting, the tag shall be pre-shaped to fit the casing such that both sides to be welded or riveted touch the casing and no gaps exist between the tag and casing. For closed loop heat exchange wells, the Well Driller shall obtain Director approval for well tag placement and method of attachment. ()

**085. PITLESS ADAPTERS. (RULE 85)**

No person shall install a pitless adaptor in a manner that allows the entrance of fluids or other substances around the pitless assembly and into the well. The Department shall enforce instances of improper installation that cause a violation of these rules. The requirement for the installation of a surface seal to a minimum depth of eighteen (18) feet below land surface as set forth in previous sections of these rules may be altered as follows when a pitless adaptor is installed: the surface seal must begin at a depth not greater than six (6) feet below land surface and extend to a minimum depth of eighteen (18) feet below land surface. The annular space above the pitless adaptor or assembly shall be filled with materials not more permeable than the surrounding, undisturbed, native ground. ()

**086. PUMP INSTALLATION. (RULE 86)**

No person shall install a pump into any well that would cause a violation of Rule 95 or would allow the well to be overpumped. ()

**087. UNUSABLE WATER WELL. (RULE 87)**

If after drilling, the quantity of water to meet a beneficial use cannot be obtained, the Well Driller shall abandon the well in accordance with these rules. ()

**088. -- 090. (RESERVED).**

**091. EXPLOSIVES. (RULE 91)**

The use of explosives inside the well casing is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the Director. ()

**092. HYDRO-FRACTURING. (RULE 92)**

Hydro-fracturing shall be performed only by Idaho-licensed well drillers. The pressure shall be transmitted through a drill string and shall not be transmitted to the well casing. The driller shall provide a report to the Director of the fracturing work which shall include well location, fracturing depth, fracturing pressures and other data as requested by the Department. ()

**093. DRILLING FLUIDS AND DRILLING ADDITIVES (RULE 93).**

The Well Driller must use only potable water and shall use only drilling fluids or drilling additives that are manufactured for use in water wells, are National Sanitary Foundation (NSF), American Petroleum Institute (API), or ASTM/ANSI approved; and do not contain a concentration of any substance in excess of Primary Drinking Water Standards, as set forth in IDAPA 58.01.08, "Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems" according to manufacturer's specifications. The Well Driller may seek approval from the Director to use specific, non-certified products on a case-by-case basis. In addition, the Well Driller shall ensure the containment of all drilling fluids and materials used or produced to the immediate drilling site, and shall not dispose of such fluids or materials into any streams, canals, boreholes, wells, or other subsurface pathways. ()

**094. DISINFECTION AND DECONTAMINATION (RULE 94).**

Every person shall clean and/or disinfect all casing, tools, drilling equipment and materials, pumps, electrical wiring and controls, drop pipe, and all other equipment to be inserted into a well. For "in-place" disinfection, every person shall ensure the appropriate amount of disinfecting chemical compound, according to the table in subsection 02.d. below, is added to the well before the insertion of any equipment or materials. Every person shall ensure sufficient

exposure and contact time of all equipment, materials, and casing, including any equipment, materials, and casing above the water level, to achieve proper disinfection. ( )

**01. Duties of Well Drillers.** Well Drillers shall: ( )

**a.** Clean and disinfect all casing, tools, drilling equipment, and other materials inserted into any existing well. Clean and disinfect all tanks and hoses to be used for work on any existing well; ( )

**b.** Disinfect all pumping equipment and sand or gravel used in an artificial filter-packed well and used to develop and pump test the well; and ( )

**c.** Use only potable water for drilling and for mixing of sealing material and ensure that the water has a chlorine residual of not more than one (1) part per million of free chlorine. ( )

**02. Disinfection Procedures.** Every person shall clean and disinfect all equipment to be placed into a well. ( )

**a.** Each person shall disinfect every well, the pump, electrical wiring, drop pipe, and all other equipment using a fifty (50) mg/L chlorine solution; ( )

**b.** Every person shall use all disinfectants in accordance with manufacturer's instructions; ( )

**c.** No person shall pour, dispose, dump, discharge, or inject any fluid, liquid, or chemical into a well that would exceed the Primary Drinking Water Standards, as set forth in the current IDAPA 58.01.08, "Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems"; and ( )

**d.** Every person shall maintain on every well site at any time disinfection is necessary adequate chlorine compounds, tools, and equipment to disinfect the well, the pump, electrical wiring and controls, drop pipe, and all other equipment in accordance with the following table. ( )

Chlorine compound required to disinfect 100-ft. of water-filled well at 50 mg/L				
Casing Diameter (in.)	Volume of water in casing per 100 ft. of water depth (gallons)	Amount of Chemical Compound needed for each 100 ft. of water		
		Calcium Hypochlorite <sup>1</sup> (65% available Cl <sub>2</sub> )	Sodium Hypochlorite <sup>2</sup> (12 trade %)	Liquid Chlorine <sup>3</sup> (100% available Cl <sub>2</sub> , (pounds)
4	65.28	0.7 oz	3.5 oz	0.03
6	146.2	1.5 oz	7.8 oz	0.06
8	261.1	2.7 oz	13.9 oz	0.11
10	408.0	4.2 oz	1.4 pt	0.17
12	587.5	6.0 oz	2.0 pt	0.25
16	1044.0	10.7 oz	3.5 pt	0.44
20	1632.0	1 lb 1oz	0.7 gal	0.68
24	2350.0	1 lb 8 oz	1.0 gal	0.98
30	3672.0	2 lbs 6 oz	1.5 gal	1.53
36	5287.0	3 lbs 6 oz	2.2 gal	2.21
48	9400.0	6 lbs 1 oz	3.9 gal	3.92
60	14690.0	9 lbs 7 oz	6.1 gal	6.13

Footnotes:

<sup>1</sup>The quantity of Calcium Hypochlorite is based on 65 percent available chlorine by dry weight.

<sup>2</sup>The quantity of Sodium Hypochlorite is based on 12-trade-percent available chlorine by US liquid measure.

(Trade percent x 10 = grams of available chlorine in 1 L of solution.)

<sup>3</sup>Quantity of liquid chlorine is based on 100 percent available chlorine by weight.

(Table from AWWA publication)
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**095. SAND PRODUCTION, WELL SCREENS, AND INTAKES (RULE 95).**

**01.** The Well Driller shall construct every well to limit the continued production of sand and other sediment particles larger than silt. For the purpose of this rule, sand shall be considered as any sediment particle retained on a U.S. standard sieve #200. The maximum sand content produced shall not exceed 15 ppm. The Well Driller shall ensure that each well is constructed with appropriately sized casing, screen(s) or perforated intake(s), and/or filter pack(s) as is necessary to meet this requirement. Wells used in connection with a public water system have more stringent requirements.

**02.** The Well Driller shall not install well screens, perforations, or other intakes that extend through a confining layer separating aquifers or zones of differing artesian pressure.

**03.** The Well Driller shall not install well screens, perforations, or other intakes through a confining layer that would otherwise prevent the migration of water from one zone to another.

**096. WELL DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING (RULE 96).**

The Well Driller shall develop every new well to maximize the yield. For each well, the Well Driller shall measure and record the static (non-pumping) water level, the pumping water level, and the sustainable production rate. The production rate shall be determined by a pump, bailer, air-lift, or other industry approved test of sufficient duration to establish the sustainable rate of production from the well. This information shall be documented on the Well Driller's report.

**097. CLOSED LOOP HEAT EXCHANGE WELLS (RULE 97).**

The Well Driller shall construct closed loop heat exchange wells in accordance with the intents, procedures and requirements of these rules. The Well Driller is not required to install casing in such wells.

**01. Installation of Closed Loop Wells.** When constructing a closed loop heat exchange well, the Well Driller shall:

**a.** Construct each borehole of sufficient size to allow the placement of approved seal material;

**b.** Use only thermally enhanced bentonite grout, mixed and installed in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations and specifications to seal each borehole;

**c.** Seal the annular space of each borehole with approved seal material as required by these rules and in accordance with the intents and procedures of Rules 50 through 62. Any segment of a borehole not requiring a seal according to these rules, and proving difficult to fill with approved seal material may be backfilled with drill cuttings, gravel, and/or sand only to a point where successful grouting can resume;

**d.** Install fluid-tight circulating pipe, composed of high-density polyethylene, grade PE3408, minimum cell classifications PE355434C or PE345434C conforming to ASTM Standard D3350, or other Department-approved pipe;

**e.** Join pipe using thermal fusion techniques according to ASTM Standards D-3261 or D-2683. All personnel creating such system joints shall be trained in the appropriate thermal fusion technologies;

**f.** Use only propylene glycol, or other Department-approved circulating fluid;

**g.** Ensure that any other system additive is NSF compliant and has prior Department approval;

**h.** Pressure test each loop with potable water prior to grout installation;

i. Pressure test the system with potable water prior to installation of the circulating fluid at 100% of the designed system operating pressure for a minimum duration of 24 hours; and ()

j. Properly abandon all loops failing the test by pressure pumping approved seal material through the entire length of each failed loop. After grouting, loop ends shall be fused together or capped. ()

**098. -- 200. (RESERVED).**

**201. CONSTRUCTION OF LOW TEMPERATURE GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE WELLS AND BONDING (RULE 201).**

**01. General.** Drillers constructing low temperature geothermal resource wells (bottom hole temperature more than eighty-five (85) Degrees F and less than two hundred twelve (212) Degrees F) shall be qualified under IDAPA 37.03.10, Well Driller Licensing Rules. All low temperature geothermal resource wells shall be constructed in such a manner that the resource will be protected from waste due to lost artesian pressure or temperature. The owner or well driller is required to provide bottom hole temperature data, but the Director may make the final determination of bottom hole temperature, based upon information available to him. ()

a. All standards and guidelines for construction and abandonment of cold water wells shall apply to low temperature geothermal resource wells except as modified by Rule 201 Subsections herein. ()

b. A drilling prospectus shall be submitted to and approved by the Director prior to the construction, modification, deepening or abandonment of any low temperature geothermal resource well. The well owner and the well driller are responsible for the prospectus and subsequent well construction. ()

**02. Well Owner Bonding.** The owner of any low temperature geothermal resource well shall file a surety bond or cash bond as required by Section 42-233, Idaho Code, with the Director in an amount not less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) nor more than twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) payable to the Director prior to constructing, modifying or deepening the well after July 1, 1987. The bond amount shall be determined by the Director within the following guidelines. The bond shall be kept in force for one (1) year following completion of the well or until released in writing by the Director, whichever occurs first. ()

a. Any well less than three-hundred (300) feet deep with a bottom hole temperature of less than one hundred twenty (120) Degrees F and a shut-in pressure of less than ten (10) pounds per square inch gage (psig) at land surface shall maintain a bond of five thousand dollars (\$5,000). ()

b. The owner of any well three hundred (300) feet to one thousand (1,000) feet deep with a bottom hole temperature of less than one hundred fifty (150) Degrees F and a shut-in pressure of less than fifty (50) psig at land surface shall maintain a bond of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). ()

c. The owner of any low temperature geothermal resource well not covered by Rules Subsections 201.02.a. and 201.02.b. shall maintain a bond of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000). ()

d. The Director may decrease or increase the bonds required if it is shown to his satisfaction that well construction or other conditions merit an increase or decrease. ()

e. The bond requirements of Section 42-233, Idaho Code, are applicable to wells authorized by water right permits or licenses having a priority date earlier than July 1, 1987, if the well authorized by the permit or license was not constructed prior to July 1, 1987 or if an existing well constructed within the terms of the permit or license is modified, deepened or enlarged on or after July 1, 1987. ()

**03. Casing.** Low temperature geothermal resource wells shall be protected from cooling by preventing intermingling with cold water aquifers and from loss of pressure by preventing flow into zones of lower pressure. ()

a. Casing which meets or exceeds the minimum specifications for permanent steel casing of Rule Subsection 031.01 shall be installed in every well. The Director may require a more rigid standard for collapse and

burst strength as depths or pressures may dictate. Every low temperature geothermal resource well which flows at land surface shall have a minimum of forty (40) feet of conductor pipe set and cemented its entire length. ()

b. Casing shall be installed from twelve (12) inches above land surface into the overlying confining strata of the thermal aquifer. The casing schedule may consist of several different casing strings (i.e. conductor pipe, surface casing, intermediate casing, production pipe) which may all extend to land surface or may be overlapped and sealed or packed to prevent fluid migration out of the casing at any depth. ()

i. Low temperature geothermal resource wells less than one thousand (1,000) feet deep and which encounter a shut-in pressure of less than fifty (50) psig at land surface shall have two (2) strings of casing set and cemented to land surface. Conductor pipe shall be a minimum of forty (40) feet in length or ten percent (10%) of the total depth of the well whichever is greater. Surface casing shall extend into the confining stratum overlying the aquifer. ()

ii. Low temperature geothermal resource wells one thousand (1,000) feet or more in depth or which will likely encounter a shut-in pressure of fifty (50) psig or more at land surface require prior approval of the drilling plan by the Director and shall have three (3) strings of casing cemented their total length to land surface. Conductor pipe shall be a minimum length of forty (40) feet. Surface casing shall be a minimum of two hundred (200) feet in length or ten percent (10%) of the total depth of the well, whichever is greater. Intermediate casing shall extend into the confining stratum overlying the aquifer. ()

c. Rule Subsection 201.03.b. may be waived if it can be demonstrated to the Director through the lithology, electrical logs, geophysical logs, injectivity tests or other data that formations encountered below the last casing string set, will neither accept nor yield fluids at anticipated pressure to the borehole. ()

d. A nominal borehole size two (2) inches in diameter larger than the outside diameter (O.D.) of the casing or casing coupler (whichever is larger) shall be drilled. All casing designations shall be by O.D. and wall thickness and shall be shown to meet a given specification of the American Petroleum Institute, the American Society for Testing and Materials, the American Water Works Association or the American National Standards Institute. The last string of casing set during drilling operations shall, at the Director's option, be flanged and capable of mounting a valve or blow out prevention equipment to control flows at the surface before drilling resumes. ()

**04. Sealing of Casing.** All casing shall be sealed its entire length with cement or a cement grout mixture unless waived by the Director. The seal material shall be placed from the bottom of the casing to land surface either through the casing or tubing or by use of a tremie pipe. The cement or cement grout shall be undisturbed for a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours or as needed to allow adequate curing. ()

a. A caliper log may be run for determining the volume of cement to be placed with an additional twenty-five (25%) percent on site ready for mixing. If a caliper log is not run, an additional one hundred (100%) percent of the calculated volume of cement shall be on site ready for placement. ()

b. If there is no return of cement or cement grout at the surface after circulating all of the cement mixture on site, the Department will determine whether remedial work should be done to insure no migration of fluids around the well bore. ()

c. The use of additives such as bentonite, accelerators, retarders, or material to prevent the loss of circulation shall conform to manufacturer's specifications. ()

**05. Blow Out Prevention Equipment.** The Director may require the installation of gate valves or annular blow out prevention equipment to prevent the uncontrolled blow out of drilling mud and geothermal fluid. ()

**06. Repair of Wells.** The well driller shall submit a drilling prospectus to the Director for review and approval prior to the repair or modification of a low temperature geothermal resource well. ()

1184           **07.     Abandoning of Wells.** Proper abandonment of any low temperature geothermal resource well  
1185 requires the following: ( )

1186  
1187           **a.**       Approved Cement grout shall be pressure pumped into the hole through drill pipe or tremie. ( )

1188  
1189           **b.**       All open annular spaces shall be completely filled with approved cement grout. ( )

1190  
1191           **c.**       Pressure pumping shall create a cement plug at least one hundred (100) feet in vertical depth shall  
1192 be placed straddling (fifty (50) feet above and fifty (50) feet below) the zone where the casing or well bore meets the  
1193 upper boundary of each ground water aquifer. ( )

1194  
1195           **d.**       A minimum of one hundred (100) feet of cement shall be placed straddling each drive shoe or  
1196 guide shoe on all casing including the bottom of the conductor pipe. ( )

1197  
1198           **e.**       A surface plug of either cement grout or concrete shall be placed from at least fifty (50) feet below  
1199 the top of the casing to the top of the casing. ( )

1200  
1201           **f.**       A cement plug shall extend at least fifty (50) feet above and fifty (50) feet below the top of any  
1202 liner installed in the well. The Director may waive this rule upon a showing of good cause. ( )

1203  
1204           **g.**       Other abandonment procedures may be approved by the Director if the owner or operator can  
1205 demonstrate that the low temperature geothermal resource, ground waters, and other natural resources will be  
1206 protected. ( )

1207  
1208           **h.**       Approval for abandonment of any low temperature geothermal well must be in writing by the  
1209 Director prior to the beginning of any abandonment procedures. ( )

1210  
1211 **202. -- 310.     (REERVED).**

1212  
1213 **311.     PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY WELLS (RULE 311).**

1214 The Well Driller shall be responsible for compliance with all additional requirements as established by other  
1215 authorized regulatory bodies in the construction, modification or abandonment of any Public Water Supply Well  
1216 according to IDAPA 58.01.08, "Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems". These additional requirements  
1217 include, but are not limited to, health standards, separation distances, minimum casing thicknesses, above ground  
1218 casing height, and sealing requirements. ( )

1219  
1220 **312.     SPECIAL STANDARDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF WELLS WHEN MINERALIZED OR**  
1221 **CONTAMINATED WATER IS ENCOUNTERED (RULE 312).** If mineralized or contaminated water is  
1222 encountered during the construction of a well, the Well Driller shall take the appropriate steps necessary to prevent  
1223 the poor quality waters from entering the well or moving up or down the annular space around the well casing. The  
1224 Well Driller shall determine the method employed to case and seal out this water, provided all other minimum  
1225 standards are met. The Well Driller will take special precautions to prevent water of inferior quality from moving  
1226 vertically in the filter pack in a filter-pack well. All actions taken will be clearly documented on the Well Driller's  
1227 report. ( )

1228  
1229 **313.     DISTANCES FROM CONTAMINATION SOURCES (RULE 313).** The Well Driller shall ensure the  
1230 location of every well in accordance with minimum setback distances from contamination sources established by  
1231 District Health Departments, and as required by IDAPA 58.01.03, "Individual/Subsurface Sewage Disposal Rules",  
1232 and IDAPA 58.01.08, "Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems." ( )

1233  
1234 **314.     OWNERS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR WELL USE AND MAINTENANCE (RULE 314).** After a well  
1235 is complete, the well owner shall: ( )

1236  
1237           **01.     Use.** The well owner shall not operate any well in a manner that causes waste or contamination of  
1238 the ground water resource. Failure to operate, maintain, knowingly allow the construction of any well in a manner



that violates these rules, or failure to repair or abandon any well as herein required will subject the well owner to civil penalties as provided by statute. ()

**02. Maintenance.**

**a.** Not allow modification to wells under their control without first obtaining an approved IDWR permit, pursuant to Section 42-235, Idaho Code; ()

**b.** Maintain the minimum casing height of twelve (12) inches above land surface and finished grade;()

**c.** Maintain the appropriate well cap, and control device if required, according to Rule 30.02.d and Rule 74; ()

**d.** Not install or allow the installation of any well pump that would cause a violation of Rule 95 or allow the well to be overpumped; and ()

**e.** Any person owning or controlling a well shall maintain the well to prevent waste or contamination of ground waters through leaky casings, pipes, fittings, valves, pumps, seals or through leakage around the outside of the casings, whether the leakage is above or below the land surface. Any person owning or controlling a non-compliant well shall be responsible for the repair of the well in accordance with these rules within one (1) year of the discovery of the violation. ()

**03. New Construction.** Prevent construction of any permanent building, except for buildings to house a well and/or plumbing apparatus, closer than ten (10) feet from an existing well. ()

**04. Maintain All Other Separation Distances.** Not construct or install, or allow the construction or installation of any object listed in a location closer than that allowed by the table of Rule 25.01.e. ()

**05. Unused or Unusable Water Wells.** The Well Owner shall be responsible for abandonment of any unused or unusable well in accordance with these rules within twenty-four (24) months. ()

**06. Wells Posing a Threat to Human Health and Safety or Causing Contamination of the Ground Water Resource.** The Well Owner shall be responsible for immediate repair or abandonment in accordance with these rules of any well shown to pose a threat to human health and safety or cause contamination of the ground water resource. ()

**315. -- 320. (RESERVED).**

**321. AREAS OF DRILLING CONCERN (RULE 321).**

**01. General.**

**a.** The Director may designate an “area of drilling concern” to protect public health, or to prevent waste and contamination of ground and/or surface water because of factors such as aquifer pressure, vertical depth to the aquifer, warm or hot ground water, or contaminated ground or surface waters. ()

**b.** The designation of an area of drilling concern does not supersede or preclude designation of part or all of an area as a Critical Ground Water Area (Section 42-233a, Idaho Code), Ground Water Management Area (Section 42-233b, Idaho Code), or Geothermal Resource Area (Sections 42-4002 and 42-4003, Idaho Code). ()

**c.** The designation of an area of drilling concern can include certain aquifers or portions thereof while excluding others. The area of drilling concern may include low temperature geothermal resources while not including the shallower cold ground water systems. ()

**02. Bond Requirement.**

a. The minimum bond to be filed by the well driller with the Director for the construction or modification of any well in an area of drilling concern shall be ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) unless it can be shown to the satisfaction of the Director that a smaller bond is sufficient. ()

b. The Director may determine on a case-by-case basis if a larger bond is required based on the estimated cost to repair, complete or properly abandon a well. ()

**03. Additional Requirements.**

a. A driller shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Director that he/she has the experience and knowledge to adequately construct or abandon a well which encounters warm water or pressurized (artesian) aquifers. ()

b. A driller shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Director that he/she has, or has immediate access to, specialized equipment or resources needed to adequately construct or abandon a well. ()

**322. -- 324. (RESERVED).**

**325. DRILLING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS (RULE 325).**

**01. General Provisions.**

a. The owner of a well to be constructed or modified shall obtain a drilling permit from the Director prior to construction or modification of the well. ()

b. The Director may issue a drilling permit to the owner of a proposed well, to the driller employed to construct the well, or to the owner's representative. ()

c. Drilling permits will not be issued for construction of a well which requires another separate approval from the department, such as a water right permit, transfer, amendment, or injection well permit, until the other separate approval has been granted by the Department. The Director may grant a waiver if it is determined that the public interest will be served by an expedited approval. ()

d. The Director may give verbal approval to a well driller for the construction of certain wells such as single family domestic wells and stockwater wells which do not require other separate approvals from the Department, provided the driller files the drilling permit and appropriate fee with the Director within thirty (30) days of the verbal approval. ()

e. The Director may give verbal approval to a well driller for the construction of a well for which other permitting requirements have been met, provided the driller files the drilling permit and appropriate fee with the Director within thirty (30) days of the verbal approval. ()

f. The Director will not give a verbal approval for well construction or drilling in a designated area of drilling concern. ()

g. Failure of the driller to submit a completed drilling permit and fee within the thirty (30) day period after receiving verbal approval to construct a well is cause for the Director to seek the penalties provided by statute and by these rules, and immediately suspend the privilege of granting verbal approvals to the driller for a period of not less than one hundred and twenty (120) days. ()

h. After the effective date of these rules, a well driller shall not construct, drill or modify any well until a drilling permit has been issued or verbal approval given. ()

**02. Effect of a Permit.**

a. A drilling permit authorizes the construction, drilling or modification of a well in compliance with these rules and the conditions of approval on the permit. ()

b. A drilling permit does not constitute a water right permit, injection well permit or other authorization which may be required from the Department prior to actual well construction and does not authorize use of water from the well or discharge of fluids into the well. ()

c. A drilling permit may not be assigned from one (1) owner to another. ()

d. A drilling permit authorizes the construction of one (1) well (except group monitoring well drilling permits) unless other holes started under terms of the permit are properly abandoned and the Department is advised of the abandonment. ()

### 03. Exclusions.

a. Geotechnical borings for the purpose of mineral exploration or for the design of foundations for structures or for the design of dams and embankments are not subject to the drilling permit requirement but shall be constructed and abandoned in accordance with minimum well construction standards. ()

b. The Director may require abandonment of wells constructed pursuant to Rule 325.03.a. if the wells are determined to cause waste or contamination of the ground water. ()

c. Wells constructed pursuant to Rule 325.03.a. shall be abandoned in compliance with adopted rules when use of the wells cease. ()

04. Fees. The appropriate drilling permit fee, as specified in Section 42-235, Idaho Code, payable to the Department, shall accompany each drilling permit application and start card. ()

### 326. -- 998. (RESERVED).

### 999. PENALTIES (RULE 999).

A person owning or controlling a well that allows waste or contamination of the state's ground water resources or causes a well not to meet the construction standards provided in these rules, is subject to the civil penalties as provided by statute. A driller who violates the foregoing provisions of these minimum well construction standards rules is subject to the penalty provisions specified in Sections 42-238 and 42-238b, Idaho Code. ()

## Appendices

### Appendix 1: Well Sealing Diagrams

### Appendix 2: Pressure Pumping Methods

### Appendix 3: Reference Links and Contact Information

Referenced Item	Name	Nature of Reference	Web Link Address	Contact Information
ANSI	American National Standards Institute	Drilling Fluids and Additives (Rule 93); Low Temperature Geothermal Resource Wells and Bonding (Rule 201)	<a href="http://www.ansi.org/">http://www.ansi.org/</a>	1819 L Street, NW, 6th floor Washington, DC 20036 Phone (202) 293-8020

API	American Petroleum Institute	Definition 36 (Rule 10); Standards for Steel Casing and Liner (Rule 31); Standards for Approved Seal Material (Rule 51); Drilling Fluids and Additives (Rule 93); Low Temperature Geothermal Resource Wells and Bonding (Rule 201)	<a href="http://www.api.org/">http://www.api.org/</a>	1220 L Street, NW Washington, DC 20005-4070 Phone (202) 682-8000
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials	Definition 36 (Rule 10); Definition 50 (Rule 10); Standards for Steel Casing and Liner (Rule 31); Standards for Thermoplastic Pipe Casing and Liner (Rule 40); Drilling Fluids and Additives (Rule 93); Closed Loop Heat Exchange Wells (Rule 97); Low Temperature Geothermal Resource Wells and Bonding (Rule 201)	<a href="http://www.astm.org/">http://www.astm.org/</a>	100 Barr Harbor Drive, PO Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA, 19428-2959
AWWA	American Water Works Association	Disinfection and Decontamination (Rule 94); Low Temperature Geothermal Resource Wells and Bonding (Rule 201)	<a href="http://www.awwa.org/">http://www.awwa.org/</a>	6666 W. Quincy Ave., Denver, CO 80235 Phone (303) 794-7711
IDAPA 37.01.01	Rules of Procedure of the Idaho Department of Water Resources	Administrative Appeals (Rule 3)	<a href="http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa37/0101.pdf">http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa37/0101.pdf</a>	Idaho Department of Administration 650 W. State Street, Room 100 P. O. Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0003 Phone (208) 332-1824
IDAPA 37.03.03	Rules for the Construction and Use of Injection Wells	General Standards (Rule 25); Injection Wells (Rule 70)	<a href="http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa37/0303.pdf">http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa37/0303.pdf</a>	Idaho Department of Administration: See Above
IDAPA 37.03.09	Well Construction Standards Rules	All Rules Herein Contained	<a href="http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa37/0309.pdf">http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa37/0309.pdf</a>	Idaho Department of Administration: See Above
IDAPA 37.03.10	Well Driller Licensing Rules	General Standards – Requirements for Licensure (Rule 25); Requirements for Drive Points (Rule 62); Low Temperature Geothermal Resource Wells and Bonding (Rule 201)	<a href="http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa37/0310.pdf">http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa37/0310.pdf</a>	Idaho Department of Administration: See Above
IDAPA 58.01.03	Individual/Subsurface Sewage Disposal Rules	Distances from Contamination Sources (Rule 313)	<a href="http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa58/0103.pdf">http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa58/0103.pdf</a>	Idaho Department of Administration: See Above
IDAPA 58.01.08	Idaho Rules for Public Drinking Water Systems	General Standards (Rule 25); Drilling Fluids and Additives (Rule 93); Disinfection and Decontamination (Rule 94); Public Water Supply Wells (Rule 311); Distances from Contamination Sources (Rule 313)	<a href="http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa58/0108.pdf">http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa58/0108.pdf</a>	Idaho Department of Administration: See Above
IDAPA 58.01.11	Ground Water Quality Rule	Definition 19 (Rule 10); Conditions Requiring the Abandonment of a Well (Rule 80)	<a href="http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa58/0111.pdf">http://adm.idaho.gov/adminrules/rules/idapa58/0111.pdf</a>	Idaho Department of Administration: See Above
Idaho Code	Title 9-337 through 9-349	Public Records Act Compliance (Rule 6)	<a href="http://www3.state.id.us/idstat/TOC/09003KTOC.html">http://www3.state.id.us/idstat/TOC/09003KTOC.html</a>	Idaho Department of Administration: See Above
Idaho Code	Title 42, Numerous Chapters	Authorizations for Rules Herein; Administrative Appeals (Rule 3)	<a href="http://www3.state.id.us/idstat/TOC/42FTOC.html">http://www3.state.id.us/idstat/TOC/42FTOC.html</a>	Idaho Department of Administration: See Above
Idaho Code	Title 47-320	Definition 55 (Rule 10)	<a href="http://www3.state.id.us/idstat/TOC/47003KTOC.html">http://www3.state.id.us/idstat/TOC/47003KTOC.html</a>	Idaho Department of Administration: See Above
Idaho Code	Title 67-5201	Written Interpretation (Rule 2)	<a href="http://www3.state.id.us/idstat/TOC/67FTOC.html">http://www3.state.id.us/idstat/TOC/67FTOC.html</a>	Idaho Department of Administration: See Above
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality	Informational Reference	Public Drinking Water Systems; Sewage Disposal Rules; Separation Distances; Other Information	<a href="http://www.deq.state.id.us/">http://www.deq.state.id.us/</a>	IDEQ State Office 1410 N. Hilton Boise, ID 83706 Phone (208) 373-0502

Idaho Department of Health and Welfare	Informational Reference	Separation Distances; Septic System Rules; Other Information	<a href="http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/portal/alias__Rainbow/lang__en-US/tabID__3382/DesktopDefault.aspx">http://www.healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/portal/alias__Rainbow/lang__en-US/tabID__3382/DesktopDefault.aspx</a>	Seven Districts: Refer to Website
Idaho Department of Water Resources/FEMA	Informational Reference	Floodplain Maps of Idaho; Information on National Flood Insurance Program	<a href="http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/water/flood/">http://www.idwr.idaho.gov/water/flood/</a>	IDWR State Office 322 E front Street Boise, ID 83720 Phone (208) 287-4800

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